

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-10 SS-15 STR-08

CEA-02 L-03 H-03 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01 EA-11 IO-15

NEA-10 DRC-01 /199 W

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R 271623Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHLC 2065

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 4276

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, NL

SUBJECT: REVISION OF DUTCH ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS FOR
1974 IN LIGHT OF REVALUATION

REF: HAGUE 4216

1. ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS TABLED IN PARLIAMENT BY GON ON
SEPT 18 TO SUPPORT CY 74 BUDGET BILL (REFTEL) HAVE NOW BEEN
REVISED TO REFLECT ANTICIPATED IMPACT OF 5 PERCENT GUILDER
REVALUATION EFFECTIVE SEPT 17. NEW FIGURES (WITH TABLED
PROJECTIONS IN PARENTHESES) ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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RETAIL PRICE INCREASE 4.5 (6)

WAGE INCREASE 8.3 (10)

EXPORT PRICE INCREASE 1.5 (3.5)

EXPORT VOLUME INCREASE 10.6 (11.5)

FIXED INVESTMENT INCREASE 8.3 (7)

BOP CURRENT ACCOUNT SURPLUS 1.8 (2.5)

2. REAL GNP GROWTH (4.5 PERCENT) AND UNEMPLOYMENT (105,000)
PROJECTIONS REMAIN UNCHANGED.

3. EMBASSY COMMENT: KEY FEATURE OF REVISED PROJECTIONS IS
LOWER FIGURE FOR RETAIL PRICE INCREASE WHICH WILL CONSTITUTE
STARTING POINT FOR UPCOMING TALKS ON TRIPARTITE CENTRAL WAGE
COMPACT. WITH INFLATION CURRENTLY RUNNING AT ANNUAL RATE
OF OVER 8 PERCENT, REDUCTION TO 4.5 PERCENT LEVEL WILL BE
NO EASY TASK AND WILL DEPEND LARGELY ON SUCCESS OF GOVT EFFORTS
TO HAVE REDUCED IMPORT COSTS PASSED ON TO CONSUMERS. WILL-
INGNESS OF UNIONS TO ACCEPT GOVT ASSURANCES ON THIS SCORE
AND AGREE TO WAGE INCREASE IN 8 PERCENT RANGE WILL BE MUCH
INFLUENCED BY PRICE DEVELOPMENTS OVER NEXT THREE MONTHS.
TANGUY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973THEHA04276
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973095/aaaaadhu.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: HAGUE 4216
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <28-Jan-2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REVISION OF DUTCH ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS FOR 1974 IN LIGHT OF REVALUATION
TAGS: EGEN, NL
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005